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Inauguration of the local partnership (LOP) cooperation and publicity for the ACRE project in Poznań

Since the last week of October 2006, the Poznań ACRE consortium members have organized several meetings with local partners (LOPs). Those meetings gave rise to the idea of organizing a Spatial Planner's Day in the Faculty of Geographical and Geological Sciences of Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań. The chief point of the idea was to provide **wide publicity for the ACRE project against the backcloth of the current conceptions of development of the Poznań metropolitan region**. The local partners and the University side agreed that the Day would also be a good opportunity to inaugurate the local partnership cooperation in an official and solemn way.

The image shows a poster and an agenda for the event. The poster on the left is titled "DZIEŃ PLANISTY PRZESTRZENNEGO NA UAM" and is dated "18 stycznia 2007 r.". It features a blue background with a grid pattern and a satellite dish. The agenda on the right is titled "PROGRAM" and lists the following items:

- 9.00 Otwarcie wystawy „Planowanie przestrzenne w Wielkopolsce”
- 9.30 Warsztaty pt. „Teoria i praktyka planowania przestrzennego”
- 10.15-11.00 prof. dr hab. Tadeusz Strykowski, dr Michał Męczyński, dr Krzysztof Stachowiak (IGSEGP)
- 11.00-11.30 mgr Michał Reim (doktorant IGSEGP)
- 11.30-12.00 Panel dyskusyjny z udziałem przedstawicieli WBFP, MPU, pracowników naukowych i studentów
- 12.00-12.45 Przerwa na kawę, zwiedzanie budynku (dla zainteresowanych)
- 12.45-13.15 prof. dr hab. Jerzy Forysek (IGSEGP)
- 13.15-13.45 Krzysztof Cesar (MPU)
- 13.45-14.15 Andrzej Błaszko, Daniel Orzechowski, Michał Urbaniak (Akademickie Koło Naukowe Gospodarki Przestrzennej)
- 14.15-14.45 Panel dyskusyjny z udziałem przedstawicieli MPU, WBFP, pracowników naukowych i studentów
- 14.45 Podsumowanie i zakończenie Warsztatów

Poster and agenda informing about the presentation of the ACRE project and inauguration of the local partnership cooperation

The Spatial Planner's Day was held on the 17th January 2007. The event was attended by scholars from various faculties of Adam Mickiewicz University and other Poznań higher schools (the University of Economics and Poznań University of

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Technology), representatives of spatial planning institutions (the City Planning Office and Wielkopolska Spatial Planning Office), local and regional self-government (the Wielkopolska Marshal Office and Poznań City Office), business institutions of the creative sector, and students. The number of visitors exceeded 300. The researchers and experts from the above-mentioned institutions constituted two local partnership groups: (1) LCP - Local Councils of Policymakers, and (2) LCE - Local Councils of Creative and Knowledge Experts (see the attached list). There were also visitors from other Polish metropolitan regions.



Photo: Maciej Meczynski – AMU Press

The leader of the Poznan ACRE consortium, Professor Tadeusz Strykiewicz greets local partners of the project

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Photo: Maciej Meczynski – AMU Press

The ACRE project is a chance for cooperation of researchers, experts from the creative sector enterprises, policy makers and students



Photo: Maciej Meczynski – AMU Press

Vice-Marshall of Wielkopolska voivodeship, Wojciech Jankowiak, one of the project local partners, gives a speech stressing the importance of the ACRE project for the region

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The schedule of the Spatial Planner's Day looked as follows:

1. The opening of an exhibition devoted to the planning of the development of the Poznań metropolitan region, with a focus on the creative sector (for the general public);
2. A workshop on "The theory and practice of planning at the regional and local levels" with a presentation of the ACRE project (for the general public); and
3. A closed meeting of the Local Partnership members to discuss further cooperation.



Photo: Students' Association of Spatial Management

Presentation of the ACRE project in the one of the biggest audience halls of the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan

The concept of the ACRE project was presented by Prof. Tadeusz Strykiewicz, Dr. Michał Męczyński and Dr. Krzysztof Stachowiak. Their presentation was split into four parts:

- (1) a theoretical background, which included basic assumptions and aims of the project,
- (2) the organizational structure of the project,
- (3) the role of space in the emerging creative knowledge region, and
- (4) the role of the LOP in a successful progress of the project.

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Photo: Maciej Meczynski – AMU Press

More than 300 people attended the presentation of the ACRE project

Special attention was paid to explaining the concept of a local partnership. The idea of such a body of academics, experts and representatives of the local and regional authorities as a platform for reviewing and assessing initial ideas as well as the results of the project was highly appreciated by the participants of the workshop. It was underlined that ACRE was one of the few projects which combined theory and practice, and which integrated international groups of experts in spatial planning and regional development.



Photo: Students' Association of Spatial Management

Informal discussion of scholars, practitioners and students during a coffee break

An important part of the event was both, formal discussions of scholars, practitioners and students which took place in a lecture hall, and informal ones in the foyer of the Faculty building where snacks and coffee were served to the participants. The presence of the local mass media ensured the Spatial Planner's Day wide publicity and the ACRE project - the dissemination of its main ideas. What emphasised the weight of the event was the attendance of the Vice-Marshal of Wielkopolska Voivodeship, the Deputy of the City Mayor, heads of planning offices and firms of the creative knowledge sector, as well as many key persons whose cooperation and support can contribute to the success of the project.

The result of the Spatial Planner's Day workshop has been the integration of many experts sharing the same interests. Moreover, the prospect of cooperation within the Local Partnership framework is a warranty of strengthening this integration in the future.